

Thanks again for your terrific article, predicting the crappy holiday gift DEQ would be sending us. I wanted to make sure you were aware that Aquila Resources just submitted their Wetlands permit application to the Michigan DEQ.

The Back Forty "Wetlands, Lakes and Streams" application was received 1-17-17, and permit files have been uploaded to the MiWaters system (# 2NN-5PE0-MT3W).

Given the DEQ's recent egregious decision to grant the Back Forty's Mining and Air pollution permits, it is absolutely critical that we work together to scrutinize implications of the Back Forty wetlands permit.

The Mining Action Group is committed to reading and reviewing this Wetlands Permit, and writing comments, but we need help. Will you continue working on the Aquila Back Forty issue?

The Back Forty Wetlands permit application consists of 7 PDF files:

2NN-5PE0-MT3W V1.pdf (6 pages)

R-Permit Application Back Forty Project Jan 2017 reduced Sections 1-7.pdf (153 pages)

R-Permit Application reduced Appendix A.pdf (40 pages)

R-Permit Application reduced Appendix B.pdf (391 pages)

R-Permit Application reduced Appendix C.pdf (823 pages)

R-Permit Application reduced Section 8.pdf (353 pages)

Tribal Engagement Summary for MDEQ 11_3_2016 reduced.pdf (549 pages)

Since navigating the DEQ's MiWaters system can be tricky, I've copied the Aquila Back Forty wetland permit files to another location. Here's the link:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0BwDgaes6rJxScklsU3JtaEhfWTg

Thanks for all you do,

K.

PS: I don't honestly know -- does MEC offer any grant funding? I think it would be worthwhile to see if we can pull together the funding needed (~\$3,500) to hire the Center for Science in Public Participation to conduct a complete technical review of the Back Forty Wetlands Permit. Let me know your thoughts on this? Thanks.

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"Pay attention. It's all about paying attention. Attention is vitality. It connects you with others. It makes you eager. Stay eager." — Susan Sontag

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Mining Action Group
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Note: the **Mining Action Group**, previously known as Save the Wild U.P., has merged to become part of the <u>Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition</u> (UPEC). P.O. Box 673 Houghton MI 49931

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